

The Lexington Intelligencer.

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LEXINGTON, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1902.

No 44

MARRIAGE VOWS SPOKEN.

Geo. W. Baldrige and Miss Margaret E. Benton Wed.

A HOME WEDDING AMONG FRIENDS.

The Bride and Groom will Reside in Attica, New York.

Married, at the home of the bride's brother, Mr. Wm. H. Benton, eight miles south of Lexington, Wednesday, November 19, 1902, at high noon, Mr. George W. Baldrige, of Attica, New York, and Miss Margaret E. Benton, of this county.

This was a quiet home wedding, only the family and most intimate friends being present. At the appointed hour, Dr. E. C. Gordon, in a beautiful and impressive ceremony spoke the solemn words that joined these two until death do part. After congratulations had been extended to the happy pair, all were invited to the dining room, where an elegant dinner was deftly and daintily served.

The house was tastefully decorated with vines and chrysanthemums, and nothing was left undone by Mr. Benton and his sister, Miss Frances, that could contribute to the enjoyment of their guests.

The bride is a daughter of the late Jos. S. Benton, a lady of lovely character, cultivated mind, and refined manners, known and loved by all in the community where she has resided since childhood. She possesses all those virtues of mind and heart which combined with domestic qualities will make her a true helpmate to her husband.

The groom is a young electrician of New York, of pleasing address and noble character, and richly deserves the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldrige were the recipients of a large number of elegant presents from friends and relatives. They left Thursday evening, and after making a short visit to relatives in Iowa, will go at once to their home at Attica, New York.

We extend them our hearty congratulations and good wishes. May their voyage through life be safe and prosperous, and when at last the tempests and billows are subsiding, may they find

"On the Land's end of Life there's a beacon of hope
To the harbor of Happiness guiding."

Killed by a Train.

Thursday afternoon at about 5:30 o'clock the Missouri Pacific local train No. 11 on the River Route struck and instantly killed Ferdinand Channel, a coal miner, who was sitting on the track about two and a half miles east of Myrick. The trainmen were held in Lexington Friday morning until 8:30 o'clock to testify before the coroner's jury. The body was brought to Winkler's Thursday night and prepared for burial. Channel leaves a wife and two children. He lived at Riverton but worked at Glen Oak.

Soup Feast at Waverly.

Professor Nate Gordon on last Saturday gave a free soup entertainment at Waverly. According to advertisement the soup was dispensed to all nationalities without regard to race, color, or previous condition of servitude. There was music in the park, cake walking, stag dancing and various frolics. The Waitman says:

"Mrs. Gordon had charge of the making of the soup and was ably assisted by Mesdames G. W. Burnett, D. H. Davis, W. P. Milnor, B. H. Thomas, H. Oelschlaeger, Salie Parker and Laura Johnson, colored. The ingredients consisted of 131 pounds of beef, 1 bushel of potatoes, 11 bushels turnips, 7 large heads of cabbage, 1 peck onions, 12 pods red pepper, 5 pounds salt, 1 dozen cans tomatoes, and the result was 115 gallons of soup which was served to the hungry crowd."

The premiums were awarded as follows: Best pair chickens, Floyd Wilson; best turkey, Floyd Wilson;

best pound of butter, Mrs. Callie Frasier; heaviest dozen eggs, Mrs. N. J. Gordon; best dozen apples; Walter Goodwin; best dozen ears of corn, J. Peterson; best gallon of wheat, Jesse Neer; best bale of hay, N. J. Gordon; best load of wood, Wm. Kuehn; largest pumpkin (54 pounds), Jasper Peterson."

The State of Franklin.

It is not a generally known historical fact that from 1774 to 1784 the territory known as Tennessee formed a part of North Carolina and that in 1785 the Tennesseans, becoming dissatisfied with their government, organized a state government under the name of Franklin, which was maintained for some years. The state organized afterward disbanded, and territorial Tennessee was again annexed to North Carolina. The following is among the laws passed by the legislature of the state of Franklin. The Columbia Statesman copied it as found in a speech by Daniel Webster on the currency of 1838:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Franklin, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from the first day of January, 1779, the salaries of the officers of this commonwealth be as follows:

His excellency, the governor, per annum, 1,000 deer skins.

His honor, the chief justice, per annum, 500 deer skins.

The secretary to his excellency, the governor, per annum 500 raccoon skins.

The treasurer to the state, 450 raccoon skins.

Each county clerk, 300 beaver skins.

Clerk of house of commons, 200 raccoon skins.

Members of the assembly, per diem, three raccoon skins.

Justices' fees for signing a warrant, one muskrat skin.

To the constable for serving a warrant, one mink skin.

Enacted into the law the 18th day of October, 1789, under the great seal of the state.

No Bee in His Bonnet.

Senator Cockrell was approached a few days ago in regard to the suggestion which has been made by many democratic leaders throughout the country that he would be as strong a candidate as could be found in the party for the presidency in 1904. The senator said plainly:

"I am not an aspirant for presidential honors, and under no consideration will I seek them."

Something Good.

Mr. Gustav Haerle, at a very great expense, has secured for the entertainment of Lexington theatre-goers May Brooks and her Picaninies for Thanksgiving afternoon. Mr. Haerle guarantees this attraction. However this is hardly necessary, as the reputation enjoyed by this company is national. It is very seldom that entertainments of this class appear outside of the larger cities.

Neale-Willis.

Invitations have been received in this city to the marriage of Miss Elizabeth Spencer Willis and Mr. Samuel Charles Neale. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Willis of Higginsville. The prospective groom is well known in Lafayette county, where he has lived until recently. Mr. Neale was formerly editor of the Higginsville Leader.

Dickey-Koelmel.

At the home of the bride, at Wellington, Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock occurred the wedding of Mr. D. S. Dickey and Miss Katie Koelmel. Mr. Dickey, now of Higginsville, is well and favorably known here, Lexington having been his home for many years. The Intelligencer joins his many friends in extending congratulations.

Died—At the home of his daughter, Mrs. Conlon in Hannibal, Mo. Nov 11, Lucien M. Major, aged about 71 years. Captain Major lived for many years in Lafayette County and enlisted in the Confederate service here, fighting through the war in Shelby's command. He was a brave soldier, a good citizen and a Christian gentleman. He was buried at Ft. Scott, Kansas, where he had made his home for several years past. He leaves a family of nine—six sons and three daughters.

NICARAGUA, ITS PEOPLE AND RESOURCES

A Land of Hardwood Forests, Great Mineral Wealth, Reptiles, Birds and Insects.

POOR SANITATION THE SCOURGE OF THE TROPICS.

The Spanish Hybrid is Revolutionary and will not Abide Government.

W. C. Catherwood, a survivor of the famous Walker Nicaragua expedition of 1855-56, is familiar with Nicaragua and Central America, which makes him an interesting conversationalist upon the present canal projects. Mr. Catherwood is inclined to think the Nicaragua route is preferable. "The inhabitants of the Panama country," he says, "are an unstable people and given to revolutions. Some persons may object to the Central American route on account of its volcanoes. They are turbulent occasionally, while the inhabitants of Panama are turbulent all the time. The United States will have to choose between revolutionary disturbances and volcanic disturbances. In one case cities are peppered down, in the other smothered with ashes. Both give the country a shaking up."

Mr. Catherwood, who is over six feet tall, says that he is 80 years old, but he does not look to be over 60. He must have been a giant when in his prime, and even now, with his broad shoulders stooped, he looks like a powerful man. His face bears a rugged look and his keen eye still shows activity and intellectual strength.

Mr. Catherwood says that in no part of the globe had he seen such vegetable growth as in Nicaragua. The forests are so dense with undergrowth that none but thick-skinned animals can penetrate them. Along the banks of the river the branches interlock so that the denizens of the forest can pass and repass from one side to the other. Many flowering trees and creeping vines entwined themselves around anything in reach, adding to the scene. Standing on the slopes of the Cordilleras below you can see landscapes of surpassing beauty. Upon the slope of the coast range that skirts the lake would become the dwelling place of many thousands providing the Nicaragua route were chosen, as it is above the fever line and the land of perpetual spring. Nature has covered all her defects and upheavals with creeping plants and vines.

"The natives are hybrids—degenerated and undeveloped," says Mr. Catherwood. "The blood of the negro, Indian and Spaniard courses their veins. Class distinction is almost unknown. A few of the higher types are well formed, and in their own land pronounced beautiful. Many of the lower classes come into the world so infernally ugly that neither nature nor time can do anything with them. The toilers carry their burdens upon their head. They walk erect and are not bowed down by toil. They are light of limb, long of stride and can run up a mountain like a goat. They are inveterate snuff dippers and cigarette smokers; they can pucker up their leathery lips and squirt into a monkey's eye eighteen feet away. The natives seldom take off their clothes to wash them—they swim in the lakes or the rivers and have a bath and take a wash at the same time. The clothes dry in a few minutes. Their household goods are of the simplest kind—a bag of meal, a pudding stick, a skillet and a hammock. The floors of their houses are of mud. There are no carpets under which a venomous reptile or insect can hide."

"Humboldt on his trip through the tropics said that \$1.54 would be sufficient to clothe a young lady from babyhood to maturity. My observation leads me to believe that he was 54 cents too high. The garments of the natives are of the lightest fabrics—one can see their physical development without removing the harness. They are not indebted to the dentist or dressmaker, nor do they have to uphold r to hide their physical defects nor wear oyster shell bonnets to hide round shoulders."

"Sanitary laws are not observed. Garbage and slop and other refuse is thrown into the streets and alleys and ground into the mud. After a shower the earth reeks with the odors of a dungeon. It appears that man born in the tropics is heir to a rich inheritance that smothers him and saps from him his energy. After one of those thunderstorms of the tropics, when the rain comes down in torrents and beats down the flowers, the atmosphere is filled with the richest incense."

"The country is alive with all manner of insects that fly and crawl. If you go into the woods at any time and lean against a tree a colony of ants will crawl up your trousers legs while another lot will be going down your back, playing the devil's tattoo on your spine. The sand is alive with fleas, lice and jiggers. You cannot sit down to a table but some nondescript insect will dive into your coffee and others scamper across your plate. The land is full of centipedes, tarantulas and spiders and other insects that sting and stink at the same time. The rivers are full of alligators, the forests full of monkeys, wild beasts, sloths, armadillos, panthers, wildcats and venomous snakes. The serpent family would become troublesome if it was not for the peccary or wild hog which roams the forest in droves in quest of such pests. In all tropical lands, where the fecundity of animal life is great, Dame Nature has arrayed one class against another to keep them in bounds. The same is true in the insect world. From early dawn until 9 a. m. the forests are alive with chattering monkeys and vocal with the songs of the curacy and mocking-bird rejoicing at the dawn of a new day. Parrots in large flocks will display their brilliant plumage in their aerial flights. The rivers and lakes are swarming with aquatic fowl. While these enjoy themselves in the water treacherous alligators swim beneath and pull them under one by one. The bird disappears with a shrill cry of despair. The rest of the flock arises from the water like a cloud, but in its simplicity it again lights upon another pond to be served once more in the same way. If you go to the edge of the forest at night you are startled by the rush and roar of the carnivorous animals hunting their prey and the herbivorous trying to escape. As you hear the roar of the victor and the cry of the vanquished you exclaim that this is a savage world."

Speaking of the two routes, Mr. Catherwood says that by the Nicaragua route New York is 1,100 miles nearer San Francisco or the Philippines than by the Panama. "To undertake to build a canal through a tropical wilderness 134 miles, to build locks to lift a ship 110 feet to the level of the lake, is an engineering problem that few nations would care to undertake to solve, not knowing the difficulties to be overcome," he says. "The Panama canal is partly dug and its length is only fifty miles from ocean to ocean, and it will require longer to pass through the Nicaragua canal than for ships to go through by way of the Panama canal. What one gains in distance the other gains in time. Second, the country through which the Panama passes is a desert country and cannot supply anything to feed the workmen along the route. The chagres fever is more deadly than all the fevers in Nicaragua combined. It is admitted that at the terminus of the Nicaragua canal at either ocean there are no deep harbors, while at Panama there is a deep harbor at both ends. To

make an ample harbor and protect it is no great engineering feat.

"The Nicaragua canal pierces one of the richest forests of our globe and which will become a source of revenue. The whole country is rich in mineral and vegetable products and edible fruits belonging to the tropics of all kinds come to perfection. The soil is very productive, producing large crops of sugar cane of a superior quality, cotton, ludigo, rice, tobacco and cocoa. In the forests are found medical gums and plants, aloes, sarsaparilla, ginger and gum arabic. In Central America Dame Nature has supplied man with all a beautiful land can give. Besides luscious oranges and pineapples, over thirty edible fruits can be found in the market. The forests are rich in ebony, mahogany, rosewood and other valuable woods. By the way of the Nicaragua route there will be 200 miles of fresh water which will relieve the ships of their barnacles. Panama route has no fresh water. By the way of the San Juan river to San Carlos, where the lake empties into the river, is about 150 miles, and across the lake to Virgin bay about thirty miles; and from there to the Pacific by the shortest way about fifteen miles; that is, from Virgin bay, on the lake, to San Juan del Sur, on the Pacific. The harbor is shallow, but very picturesque. Lake Nicaragua is about 110 miles by forty and abounds in the finest fresh water fish. Lake Managua is another beautiful lake connected by a river."

"If we pierce that country with the canal we will either infuse new life into the natives or they must disappear. We cannot absorb them. If we try, it we will become deteriorated, like the Spaniard. The Anglo-Saxon is destined to become the ruling factor in this green, glad world in peace or in war. What man has done he can do. Backed by the forces of nature, which he has chained to his chariot, he can drain the fever-laden swamps, clean up the pestilential cities and make of the country all that it is capable of being made by destroying the noxious insects that annoy him, subduing the savage fertility of nature, and compelling her to bring forth a yellow harvest instead of brush and thorns. The trouble with the Spanish hybrids is that they are revolutionary in their tendency and will not abide the decision of the ballot box—the urn of fate. The defeated party will not submit to the majority. Spain lost her distant province and island jewels by her roendacity and misrule. Political jugglery and jealousy, craft and cunning will not hold the political fabric together. Today Spain stands like a bleached skeleton before the nations, shorn of her Sampson locks and deprived of all her political power. She has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. The scepter has fallen from her withered grasp. All that is left is the dust of her mighty dead. Four hundred years ago she led the van of nations. Today she stands by the wayside of nations, a beggar."

Some Pension Facts.

There are now on the pension rolls 999,446 names; of this number 4,695 reside without the United States.

During the last year 37,043 pensioners died, and it is estimated that the death rate this year will be 40,000.

The total amount paid for pensions last year was \$137,594,268 and it cost three and a half million to pay this amount out.

The government, since its organization has paid out in pensions \$2,972,509,019, exclusive of the establishment of soldiers' homes.

There was paid out in pensions on account of the revolutionary war, \$470,000,000; war of 1812, \$45,025,297; Indian wars, 5,841,207; Mexican war, \$31,861,338; civil war, over two and a half billions; war with Spain, over three and a quarter millions.

The average value of each pension last year was a little over \$132. During last year there was 188,626 applications for pensions, of which number 117,586 were granted.

Edge O'x came in Wednesday from St. Louis to look after business matters and visit his grandfather, J. J. Fleming for a few days.

Miss Mary Bethel returned Wednesday night from Jefferson City, where she has been spending several days with her sister and friends.

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POOR LO'S LAND ALLOTTED

The Dawes Commission in Session at Atoka.

THE WORK OF PARCELING HAS BEGUN

Must Fight the Battle of Life Beside the White Man.

The Indian Territory at this time is undergoing what might be called reconstruction.

The Dawes commission, representing the government of the United States, has convened at Atoka for the purpose of making treaties and dividing up the nation, and is succeeding very admirably. The Indians' "happy hunting ground" west of the Mississippi river will, in the course of a very short time, be a thing of the past. The Dawes commission has allotted and executed deeds to all the property in the Seminole and the Creek nations, and on February 1, 1903, it will establish a government land office in Atoka, I. T., and begin allotting lands in the Choctaw nation.

There are 7,000,000 acres of land in the Choctaw nation to be allotted among 32,000 citizens by blood and intermarriage, and it is estimated that it will take about three years in which to complete the allotments in detail. As soon as the allotment begins the Indians will be in a position to contract for the sale of one-quarter of their land, and in three and five years thereafter will be authorized to sell the remainder of their allotment, and as each citizen of the nation is permitted to hold 320 acres of average land, there will be something like 700,000 acres on the market this coming year. In many families there are eight and ten children, which means that the family will receive from 2,500 to 3,200 acres of land. After each Indian receives 230 acres of average allotable land the surplus will be sold by the government of the United States to United States citizens.

The recent supplementary treaty with the Choctaw nation authorizes and instructs the Choctaw nation to sell the coal mines of the nation within the next few years, and the coal mines in this country are numerous and very rich, and it is estimated that the revenue received from their sale will be up in the billions of dollars.

The Indian Territory today is the last new country in the great west, and the people throughout the entire United States are watching with great interest the progress of the Dawes commission in settling up the Indian questions.

The present intentions are that the entire lands of the five civilized tribes will be allotted, and the surplus lands sold by the government of the United States within the next three years, and this means the opening up to the United States citizens the greatest opportunities of their lifetime to get a home in a new and fertile country. The territory is rich in its mines, its farming lands, its forest and its grazing land. At this time there are thousands of people coming into the Indian Territory, and especially to the Choctaw nation, seeking homes and investments, and they are accomplishing the purpose of their coming.

It is estimated that on the first day of February, 1903, there will be 3,000 people come to Atoka in the Choctaw nation for the purpose of filling on and proving their allotments, and it will take something like three years to complete the allotment of the country.

There is going to be a great rush for property there. The demand for laborers, contractors and investors is phenomenal.

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